



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** June 7, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Approval Of Emergency Purchase Order For Digester Building Sludge Line Repair At The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the General Services Manager to award an after-the-fact Purchase Order Contract in the amount of \$66,640 to Lash Construction, Inc. (Lash), for the emergency repair of the Digester Building Sludge Lines at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero).

### DISCUSSION:

City staff recently identified the El Estero sludge system piping to be in need of immediate repair. This sludge piping is part of the Digester Building sludge pump system and is shared by both digesters at El Estero.

The sludge piping in the pump system is shared by both digesters at El Estero. These digesters are critical to the wastewater treatment for processing biosolids. The digesters produce over 100,000 cubic feet of methane gas per day and store 1.6 million gallons of digested biosolids. Failure of this sludge pump system would cause sludge digestion process problems that could impact existing El Estero regulatory permit compliance.

Lash was selected as a sole source vendor. While staff contacted two vendors in the immediate area who were capable of handling this type of repair, only Lash had the required materials on hand and was able to respond within the necessary time frame.

Normally, a formal bidding process would be followed to secure a contractor, and the contract would be subject to the approval of City Council. However, because of the urgent nature of the repairs, there was insufficient time to follow that process. The Purchasing Code gives staff the authority to execute a contract under these situations and provides that Council approve the item as soon as practical.

**PROPOSED WORK:**

The emergency work consists of the removal and replacement of existing six inch and eight inch diameter steel sludge lines and the reconstruction of brackets for approximately 120 linear feet of piping. The emergency work began on Monday, May 9, 2011, and is expected to be completed within 90 calendar days.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

There are sufficient funds in the Wastewater Capital Fund to cover the repair costs..

**PREPARED BY:** Christopher Toth, Wastewater System Manager/avb

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office